

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to a real-time audio communication system of a computer comprising:
recording an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;
filtering a DC component out of the audio sample;
determining values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;
comparing the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample ~~to~~ with predetermined values; ~~and~~
determining whether a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on ~~a the comparison of relationship between~~ the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients ~~and with~~ the predetermined values; and
determining whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.

2. (Currently amended) A computer program, residing on a computer-readable medium, for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to an audio communication system of a computer, comprising instructions for causing the computer to:
record an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;
filter a DC component out of the audio sample;
determine values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;
compare the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample ~~to~~ with predetermined values; ~~and~~

determine ~~the likelihood of whether~~ a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values; and

determine whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.

3. (Currently amended) A computer system running programmed processes comprising a process for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to an audio communication system of a computer, which process causes the computer system to:

record an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;

filter a DC component out of the audio sample;

determine values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;

compare the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample ~~to~~ with predetermined values; and

determine ~~the likelihood of whether~~ a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based the comparison of on the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values; and

determine whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.